measuring infrared absorption intensity of water at the infrared wave number, and

obtaining the water concentration based on the measured intensity of the sample and the background absorption intensity with a water concentration calibration curve prepared in advance.

13. (Amended) A method for producing ammonia having a decreased water content, wherein the method comprises the steps of distilling crude ammonia and measuring a water concentration in ammonia using a measurement method as claimed in claim 1.

14. (Amended) A method for producing ammonia having a decreased water content, wherein the method comprises the steps of purifying crude ammonia by contacting it with at least one purifying agent selected from the group consisting of metals, metal oxides and zeolite and measuring a water concentration in ammonia using a measurement method as claimed in claim 1.

Please add the following new claims:

22. (New) A method for measuring a water concentration in ammonia having a water concentration of 10 ppm or less, comprising

introducing a gaseous phase moiety of liquefied ammonia as a reference gas into a multi-reflection long optical path cell,

measuring infrared absorption intensity at an infrared wave number at which infrared absorbances of ammonia and water do not overlap as background absorption,

introducing a gas vaporized by heating liquefied ammonia as a sample at a constant flow rate into the cell,

measuring infrared absorption intensity of water at the infrared wave number, and